

How to Safely View the 2017 Solar Eclipse

Never look at the sun without eye protection, even during a partial eclipse.

If you are in totality (see map on opposite page and at dnr.mo.gov/education/solar-eclipse-map.htm), there will be a very short period (approximately two and one-half minutes) when the moon completely covers the sun. You need no eye protection during this period of totality. You will need protection for the partial phases before and after totality.

Only use approved solar viewing filters for direct viewing. Tested and approved glasses and viewers block harmful and invisible solar rays. Sunglasses do not. You can order approved glasses and viewers from mostateparks.com/shop (below right).

Cover telescopes and binoculars with an approved solar filter. Using an unfiltered telescope or binoculars, even with solar glasses covering your eyes, will magnify sunlight and damage the device, the glasses, and your eyes.

Several indirect viewing methods exist, including making a pinhole camera with a piece of paper, a cereal box, or even your hands (see above right). With your back to the sun, allow the light to shine through a small hole and project an image onto the ground or a piece of paper.

More information about the solar eclipse is available on the Youth Education and Interpretation website: dnr.mo.gov/education/solar-eclipse.htm.



The total eclipse will last two minutes and 40 seconds in the center of the path of totality.